Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 EB-11 NIC-01 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12

PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 RSR-01 /121 W

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R 040706 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7652

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 2816

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, AS, CA, PL, KN, KS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR'S LUNCH IN SEOUL FOR POLISH AND CZECH NNSC REPS

REF: SEOUL 2121 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: POLISH AND CZECH NNSC REPS LUNCHED WITH AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR IN SEOUL ON APRIL 27 AS SCHEDULED WITH ROK/MOFA OFFICIAL ALSO PRESENT. THE PARTY WAS CONGENIAL. POLE AND CZECH APPEARED TO BE IMPRESSED BY WHAT THEY SAW IN SOUTH KOREA. POLISH MEMBER THREE TIMES REPEATED INVITATION TO MOFA OFFICIAL TO VISIT POLAND IN PRIVATE CAPACITY. END SUMMARY.

1. WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN ACCOUNTS OF AUSTRALIAN CONFIDENTIAL

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AMBASSADOR'S LUNCH IN SEOUL FOR THE POLISH AND CZECH NNSC MEMBERS OF APRIL 27 BY BOTH AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR BOUCHIER AND MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR KIM DONG WHIE, WHO WAS ROK OFFICIAL IN ATTENDANCE. AMBASSADOR PREFACED HIS ACCOUNT OF THE LUNCHEON WITH OBSERVATION THAT THIS AUSTRALIAN INITIATIVE WAS MANIFESTATION OF AUSTRALIA'S INTENTION TO HELP ROKG SECURE RECOGNITION OF ROKG AND REPRESENTATION IN SEOUL FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

- 2. POLISH VISITORS WERE MAJ. GEN. AND MRS. JOZEF DZIADURA PLUS AIDE, BENEDYKT SZPYRKA, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER. CZECHS WERE COLONEL GENERAL AND MRS. MIROSLAV SMOLDAS PLUS AIDE LT. ZDENEC PAGAC. THEY LEFT JSA AT 1100 HOURS AND RETURNED AT 1700 HOURS
- 3. BOUCHIER THOUGHT PARTY HAD GONE OFF WELL AND REPRESENTED AT LEAST SMALL STEP IN BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS. HE AND KIM BOTH THOUGHT DAY IN SEOUL FOR COMMUNIST NNSC MEMBERS WAS PLEASANT OCCASION FOR ALL CONCERNED. GUESTS ESPECIALLY CZECHS, WERE OBVIOUSLY IMPRESSED BY VIGOROUS PULSE OF LIFE IN SOUTH AND ABUNDANCE AND VARIETY OF CONSUMER GOODS COMPARED WITH NORTH.
- 4. BOTH AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR AND DIRECTOR KIM ALSO BELIEVE THAT POLISH MEMBER'S INVITATION TO KIM TO VISIT POLAND IN HIS PRIVATE CAPACITY, REPEATED THREE TIMES DURING LUNCHEON PARTY, WAS MADE ON INSTRUCTIONS. POLE SAID THAT HE WOULD MAKE ALL THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS IF KIM ACCEPTS. ROKG HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER, WHEN OR HOW TO ACCEPT INVITATION.
- 5. AIE OF POLISH MEMBER, SERVING ALSO AS
 HIS INTERPRETER, SPOKE GOOD ENGLISH AND
 PROMPTLY TOLD KIM THAT HE IS CAREER OFFICER IN POLISH
 DIPLOMATIC SERVICE. CZECH MEMBER WAS DESCRIBED AS
 URBANE MAN OF PARTS. FORMER VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE,
 HE DID NOT CONCEAL THAT HE RESENTS BOTH SOVIET DOMINATION
 OF HIS COUNTRY AND HIS ISOLATION IN NORTH KOREAN ASSIGNMENT.
 HIS WIFE IMPRESSED AUSTRALIANS AS CULTURED LADY MORE
 INTERESTED IN CULTURAL SITES THAN SHOPPING.
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6. DIRECTOR KIM WAS IMPRESSED THAT CZECH AND POLE " HAD NO BARRIERS IN THEIR HEARTS" TO ASSOCIATION WITH ROK OFFICIAL, THAT AT NO POINT THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD DURING WHICH THEY MET DID EITHER POLE OR CZECH MENTION DPRK IN ANY WAY, AND THAT POLISH MEMBER SEVERAL TIMES CONSCIOUSLY USED " REPUBLIC OF KOREA" IN SPEAKING OF THE SOUTH.

THESE POINTS, TOGETHER WITH POLISH INVITATION, HE SAID, WERE MAIN ELEMENTS OF REPORT HE MADE OF THE ENCOUNTER.

7. LADIES DINED SEPARATELY AT PRIVATE CLUB (SEOUL CLUB)
ON 31 ST FLOOR OF SEOUL SKYSCRAPER. DURING LUNCHEON
CONVESRSATION CZECH WIFE SAID THAT A RECEPTION WOUD
TAKE PLACE SHORTLY AT POLE/ CZECH ADVANCE CAMP JUST NORTH
OF DMZ ON NORTH KOREAN SIDE AND GANDLY INVITED ALL OF
THE LADIES PRESENT (THIS INCLUDED MRS. BOUCHIER AND
MRS. KIM) TO ATTEND. BOUCHIER BELIEVES THIS MAY HAVE
BEEN ONLY IDLE CHATTER BUT SAYS HE ASSUMES CANBERRA
WOULD APPROVE HIS GOING WITH HIS WIFE IF ROKG INTERPOSES
NO OBJECTION, ASSUMING INVITATION IS CONFIRMED. WHEN
WE ASKED KIM ABOUT THIS HE SEEMED UNAWARE OF THIS ASPECT
OF LADIES' CONVERSATION AND HAD NO IDEA HOW ROKG WOULD
REACT TO SUCH INVITATION IF IT WERE CONFIRMED.
UNDERHILL

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^{***} Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: MARR, AS, CA, KN, KS, PL

To: BERN **CANBERRA** HONG KONG MOSCOW **PRAGUE**

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